

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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P 162032Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6482

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, EIND, ETEL, EFIN, BBAK, SCUL, SEDU, CA

SUBJECT: BILL C-58: COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

REF: OTTAWA 1742

1. MARY ANN FRIFFITH, CHIEF CLERK, HOUSE OF COMMONS
STANDING COMMITTEE ON BROADCASTING, FILMS AND ASSISTANCE
TO THE ARTS, ADVISED TCO MAY 16 OF PLANS FOR COMMITTEE
CONSIDERATION OF BILL C-58. SHE INDICATED PRESENT PLANS
ARE FOR HEARINGS TO COMMENCE EARLY IN THE WEEK OF MAY 26
(ASSUMING SECOND READING IN HOUSE OCCURS IN TIME FOR THAT)
AND TO CONTINUE THROUGH APPROXIMATELY TEN SESSIONS RUNNING
INTO JUNE. SEPARATE BLOCKS OF SESSIONS WIL BE DEVOTED
TO PUBLISHING AND BROADCASTING. PROSPECTIVE WITNESSES
WILL BE SCHEDULED IN THE ORDER IN WHICH WRITTEN REQUESTS
TO APPEAR ARE RECEIVED. SUCH REQUESTS HAVE ALREADY
BEEN RECEIVED FROM LARGE NUMBER OF CANADIAN INTERESTS,
TIME AND READER'S DIGEST, AND FROM A STATE OF WASHINGTON
TV STATION (PRESUMABLY KVOS AT BELLINGHAM BUT SHE
WAS NOT SURE IT WAS THAT SPECIFIC STATION). THERE
IS GOING TO BE A PROBLEM OF ACCOMMODATING ALL
PROSPECTIVE WITNESSES. SHE INDICATE IT WOULD BE
VERY DIFFICULT TO ACCOMMODATE REQUESTS RECEIVED
AFTER HEARINGS COMMENCE AND INDICATED ANY US INTERESTS
WISHING TO APPEAR SHOULD ADVISE THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
IN WIRITIN (LETTER, TELEGRAM OR TELEX) NO LATER THAN
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MAY 26 AND PREFERABLY BEFORE MAY 23. FOR ADDRESS

SEE OUR 1559, APRIL 28.

2. COMMENT: FURTHER DEBATE ON BILL C-58 MAY TAKE
PLACE IN HOUSE OF COMMONS TODAY (MAY 16), BUT IT IS
NOT PRESENTLY CERTAIN THAT SECOND READING AND REFERENCE
TO COMMITTEE WILL OCCUR ON THAT OCCASION. IF SECOND
READING AND REFERENCE DOES NOT TAKE PLACE SOON, PLAN
TO HOLD HEARINGS STARTING EARLY WEEK OF MAY 26 MAY
SLIP AND THUS DEADLINE FOR REQUESTS WOULD BE POSTPONED.
WHETHER THAT WILL OCCUR CANNOT BE PREDICTED RIGHT NOW.
PORTER

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